

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kiyohito ISHIDA et al.

Appl. No: 10/560,072

Confirmation No: 9656

Filed: December 9, 2005

For: CONTINUOUS VACUUM
CARBURIZING PROCESS AND
APPARATUS FOR METAL WIRE,
METAL STRIP OR METAL PIPE

Art Unit: 1793

Examiner: Weiping Zhu

Atty. Docket No: 31238-225900

Customer No:

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 8, 2008, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Reply with the concurrently-filed Request for Continued Examination. The Application is amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of the Claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.